

5/79

BA 1249

PHILIP REISTER OWINGS HOUSE  
365 Main Street  
Reisterstown, Maryland.

Private Public

The three-storey form of this traditional mid-nineteenth century house of the Greek-revival period is characteristic of the period, a form undoubtedly originating in the cities and imitated in the country and in rural villages. Now adapted as a shop and apartment, this highly visible example retains nearly all of its original detailing.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

BA 1249

MA6I# 0312495504

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Philip Reister Owings House

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

365 Main Street

6th

CITY, TOWN

Reisterstown

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☒ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Edward Myerberg

Telephone #: 837-2900

STREET &amp; NUMBER

335 N. Charles Street

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21201

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Baltimore County

Liber #: 2889

Folio #: 80 &amp; 488

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Towson, Maryland

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

365 Main Street is a three-storey brick house facing the street to the west, five bays in length, having an original two storey brick wing extending east from its north end. The house dates from ca. 1850-1860. The walls are of common bond with every sixth course headers. Jack arches one brick in height are above each masonry opening. The principal entrance is centered in the west front, a single eight-panel door with a transom, set in paneled jambs. Windows are 6/6, except for the very short third-storey windows which are two-light casements, and all have louvred blinds. Flush chimneys rise above each gable end. The southerly portion of the main house has been deepened to the east with a shallow frame wing, its roof a continuation of the main roof.

Within, a hall having a staircase to the upper floors is centered but its southerly partition is removed. A single room is on either side of the hall and the rear wing is two rooms in length. An enclosed back stair rises between the two rear rooms. Upper floors were not inspected but the floorplans are undoubtedly identical.

The round rail of the principal stair is supported by a slim turned newel and plain round tapered balusters. An intermediate landing is between each floor. The mantel of the south room is obscured by modern shelving but the north mantel appears original, consisting of plain pilasters supporting a plain frieze, simple bed moulding and plain shelf. Openings are trimmed with a beaded two-plain architrave without a back-band.

The south room is opened to and enlarged by the frame easterly extension.

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		local history	

## SPECIFIC DATES

## BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

John Reister II conveyed this part of the Brotherly Love tract to his second son, Henry, in 1813. (WG 123/337-38). The tract contained 7 acres 10 sq. Poles. The deed mentions buildings and houses, but it is certain that these houses were torn down before the one under consideration was built. Henry farmed both his father's and his grandfather's land and had married Martha Ann Dean in 1806. They had nine children. (Marks, op. cit., p. 100-101).

When his father died in 1814, Henry as executor may have left his house on this lot (now gone) to move into his father's larger house (across from the Inn). In any event, he sold this property to Peter Reister in 1823 (WG 169/285-7). Henry was active in community affairs--succeeding his father on the Board of Trustees of Reisterstown School House. In 1819 he had been appointed county constable. He died in 1830 at the early age of 49. (Marks, op. cit., p. 101).

In 1845, Peter Reister's will devised this property to his sister, Hannah Owings (DMP 20/448). Henry's widow, Martha Ann, brought a suit in equity against Peter's executor, who was Elias Reister. The deed for the original sale of the land to Peter in 1823 was found to be invalid and Hannah Owings had to repurchase the property in 1849 for \$701.00 (AWB 427/304-5).

Hannah sold the property in two parts--both to Philip Reister Owings, her son. One acre sold in 1855 for \$300.00. (HMF 13/235) and in 1864 7 acres for \$500.00 (JHL 40/99). It is unclear whether Philip built the house from scratch at this time or whether he enlarged an existing structure. The house under consideration was most certainly built (rebuilt) by Philip Reister Owings around 1861. Mrs. Marks states that Philip Owings "enlarged the house" (Marks, op. cit., p. 80). That he lived on this site is confirmed in Dr. Dickson's account written in 1869. (Dickson, op. cit., p. 7). He wrote: "After turning over this place (referring to the Inn) to his son, Philip, Mr. John Reister, Sr. retired to that part of the land whereon Mr. Philip Reister Owings now resides...."

Philip Reister Owings was a merchant. He owned considerable property in Reisterstown. He had two wives: Mary Ann Choate, his second cousin and daughter of Solomon Choate, another prosperous landowner in Reisterstown. She died in 1865. In 1873 he married Susan E. Holton. Philip Reister Owings died in 1908. (Marks, op. cit., p. 80).

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

BA-1249

Historic Reisterstown, Inc.  
Baltimore County  
Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

Page 1

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

By 1919, this property had been combined into a large estate belonging to Henry C. Shirley. (WPC 515/193). The Shirley Farm was a working farm and the tract became known as Chartley. It contained some 208 acres. The Shirley family brought fame to Reisterstown through their breeding of Clydesdale horses. This was one of two farms in all of Maryland to raise these horses. Mr. Shirley chose the name Chartley because the ancestral acres in Staffordshire, England were called Chartley Park. (Pollack, op. cit., unpagged). Col. Shirley restored this house, although he did not live here. Henry C. Shirley deeded the tract to Joseph W. Shirley and Joseph W., Jr., in 1929. (LMcLM 838/457). In 1956, the property was sold to the Chartley Holding Company (GLB 2889/77 and GLB 2889/80). This land was developed, beginning in 1959, with apartments, townhouses, single family homes and a large shopping center. The house has most recently been used as a store.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Land Records Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Md.  
 Pollack, Carol Reisterstown, 1976 (locally published, 1976)  
 Marks, Lillian B. Reister's Desire (Baltimore, 1975)  
 Dickson, Isaac N., Early Days of Reisterstown and Vicinity (locally published by  
 Kiwanis Club of Reisterstown, 1947)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY** James T. Wollon A.I.A.

NAME / TITLE Mrs. George Cosman, Volunteer Researcher  
 Cornelis M. Ives, Project Coordinator

ORGANIZATION

Historic Reisterstown, Inc.

DATE

9/78  
 833-3078 (Ms. Ives)

STREET & NUMBER

430 Main Street

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Reisterstown

STATE

Maryland 21136

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
 (301) 267-1438



BA 1249

Philip Reister Owings House

365 Main St

Reist. Md

Robert Dasch

8/78

East





BA 1249

Carol Pollack

4-77

South